

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 OFA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 NSF-02 OES-05 /033 W  
----- 014533

R 290930Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3674K  
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS CASABLANCA 0679

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, MO, US

SUBJ: NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES CO.

REF: STATE 204323, CASABLANCA 673

1. RFA APPRECIATE RAPID RESPONSE TO REFTEL.
2. NMFS MAY WISH TO PASS FOLLOWING TO HARRIS IN VIEW OF HIS  
EARLY SEPTEMBER DECISION DATE: FIRST, MOROCCAN ( AND SPANISH  
SAHARAN) WATERS OFFER TREMENDOUS FISHERIES POTENTIAL, POSSIBLY  
WORLD'S LAST UNTAPPED RESOURCE. THIS RESOURCE SHOULD BE EXPLORED  
BY NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES CO. (NEFCO) EVEN SUPERFICIALLY, BEFORE  
ANY NEGATIVE DECISION MADE. SECOND, OFFICE NATIONAL DE PECHE  
(ONP) VERY INTERESTED IN ATTRACTING U.S. INVESTORS IN FISHERIES.  
ONP DIRGEN MET WITH RFA AND ECON/COMM OFFICER FISHER TO DISCUSS  
NEFCO INTEREST. DIRGEN WISHES TO MEET HARRIS BEFORE FINAL DECISION  
MADE SINCE ONP ALSO POTENTIAL PARTNER.
3. NEFCO SHOULD KEEP ALL AVENUES OPEN AND SHOULD REFRAIN FROM  
ANY BINDING COMMITMENTS. ONP AND RFA WOULD BOTH PREFER CAUTIONS  
INITIAL APPROACH---INCLUDING SURVEY CRUISE---TO ANY HASTY MOVE  
WHICH MIGHT FAIL. NEFCO MAY WISH TO CONSIDER "NO STRINGS" SIX MONTHS  
EXPERIMENTAL FISHERY BEFORE MAKING DECISION. SCHEDULING  
DIFFICULTIES MAKE USE OF FAO RESEARCH VESSEL WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE  
GRATIS.

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4. RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE OF RAMADAN BEGINS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER

AND LASTS UNTIL EARLY OCTOBER. MORE PRODUCTIVE WORK WOULD  
RESULT IF NEFCO PLANNED FUTURE VISIT AFTER RAMADAN. ALSO,  
ONP DIRGEN PLANS VACATION IN SEPTEMBER.

5. IN SUMMARY, NEFCO SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO MAINTAIN INFORMAL  
LINKS WITH AMERICAN-MOROCCAN OCEAN RESOURCES (AMOR) AND  
POSSIBLY TO WORK WITH AMOR UNDER SHORT-TERM AGREEMENT DURING  
RESEARCH OR EXPERIMENTAL FISHERY STAGE. NEFCO SHOULD ALSO PLAN  
VISIT TO ONP. COMPANY MAY VISIT OTHER JOINT-VENTURE FIRMS TO  
STUDY PROBLEMS. NEFCO, FINALLY, SHOULD CONSIDER ENORMOUS RESOURCES  
OF THESE WATERS BEFORE ANY FINAL DECISION.  
FISHER

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